

REMARKS

Claims 8, 16, 22, 26 and 34 are amended.

In the Office Action mailed June 28, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 8-24 and 26-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pal et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,675) in view of Hogan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,873,099). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the following reasons.

Claims 8, 22 and 26

With respect to claims 8, 22 and 26, the Examiner admits that Pal et al. fails to disclose a “lookup service.” *Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 3, ll. 4-6. In order to cure this deficiency, the Examiner asserts that “the claimed invention differ[s] from the teachings of Pal only by a degree” and that “[i]t is well known to one [of] skill in the art that [a] lookup service ... is an obvious variation of the database [of Pal] because databases are used for lookup services or for query services.” *Id.*, p. 3, ll. 6-11. As an example, the Examiner cites Hogan et al. as disclosing “a lookup service utilizing a database to manage queries sent to the lookup service (e.g. add, delete, update, commit) (see Abstract and col. 8, lines 49-58),” and asserts that “one of ordinary skill . . . would have been motivated to modify the lookup service as disclosed by Hogan to utilize the distributed database functions as disclosed by Pal.” *Id.*, p. 3, ll. 11-16.

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s statements and disagree with the Examiner’s interpretation of Hogan et al. Nevertheless, Applicants have amended claims 8, 22 and 26 above in order to further prosecution of this application.

Specifically, claim 8 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, “maintaining a lookup service, the lookup service comprising at least one service item containing one of (a) a stub or (b) a serialized object for use in accessing at least one of the services.” *Claim 8*, ll. 4-6; *Claim 26*, ll. 5-8. Similarly, claim 22 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, “a lookup service comprising a plurality of service items containing one of (a) a stub or (b) a serialized object for use in accessing services that are available for use.” *Claim 22*, ll. 3-5. Support for such amendments may be found at least on page 12, line 19, through page 13, line 9, of the original specification.

Applicants can find no description of such a lookup service in either Pal et al. or Hogan et al. Thus, neither Pal et al. nor Hogan et al., nor their combination teaches or even suggests the subject matter of claims 8, 22 and 26 as amended. For at least these reasons, Applicants submit that the Examiner’s rejections of claims 8, 22 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pal et al. and Hogan et al. is inapplicable to these claims as amended. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 8, 22 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 9-11 and 27-29

Claims 9-11 and 27-29 depend from one of claims 8 and 26. Therefore, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on Pal et al. and Hogan et al. are likewise inapplicable to claims 9-11 and 27-29 for at least the same reasons given above with respect to independent claims 8 and 26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request

that the rejections of claims 9-11 and 27-29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37

With respect to claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37, the Examiner asserts that Pal et al. discloses “a database data processing system . . . having the function to receive a request to be notified when the database is updated, [and] . . . generating a notification when it is determined that the database is updated.” *Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 4, ll. 1-8 (citing Pal et al., col. 5, ll. 17-22). Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s interpretation of Pal et al.

It is unclear whether the Examiner is attempting to read the “writelock” message or the “callback” message discussed in the cited passages of Pal et al. as the “request to be notified when the lookup service is updated.” *See Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 4, ll. 1-8. Neither reading supports a rejection of claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37.

In Pal et al., the writelock message is a notification of pending write access to a database object. Pal et al., col. 5, ll. 30-31. That is, the writelock message is a notification of a *pending update* to the database object and not a request to be notified when the database object is updated.

Further, the callback message is sent from the navigational agent “to each of [the clients that currently have the database object X allocated] other than the client requesting the writelock . . . to notify them that object X will soon be out of date.” *See Pal et al.*, col. 6, ll. 57-67. The notified client “delays responding to the callback

message until it has completed utilizing the object.” col. 5, ll. 35-36. “[T]he navigational agent does not allow an update of the database object until a reply to each callback message is received.” Id., col. 5, ll. 52-55. Thus, the callback message and reply of Pal et al. does not teach or suggest a request to be notified when the *database* (which the Examiner is interpreting as the lookup service*) is updated. Instead, it is a mechanism for the navigational agent 208 to determine whether any of the clients to whom the database *object X* is allocated are “currently using the object as part of a transaction,” and if so, prevent updating of the object. See Pal et al., col. 5, ll. 33-37.

Finally, the Examiner asserts that “[w]hen combining Pal and Hogan it should be recognized that the flexibility and functionality of Pal’s notification system would be increased by having the ability to notify the client about added and deleted services by use of Pal’s callback functions.” *Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 4, ll. 14-18 (citing Hogan et al., col. 47, ll. 6-55; Pal et al., col. 5, ll. 25-37). However, Hogan et al. is not relied upon to teach and, in fact, does not teach the above-noted deficiencies of Pal et al. Thus, even if the Examiner’s proposed modification would increase “the flexibility and functionality” of Pal et al., nothing in Pal et al. or Hogan et al. would suggest such use of the callback function to one of ordinary skill.

Therefore, even if a Hogan et al. “discloses a lookup service,” or “[a] lookup service . . . is an obvious variation of [a] database” (*Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 3, ll. 8-11), which Applicants dispute, neither Pal et al. nor Hogan et al., nor their

* Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner’s interpretation because it is not the interpretation that one of ordinary skill would reasonably give to the term “lookup service” after considering the instant specification.

combination supports the Examiner's rejection of claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Claims 13-18, 20, 21, 24, 31-36, 38 and 39

Applicants note that claims 16 and 34 are amended herein to correct grammatical errors. Applicants submit that the scope of claims 16 and 34 remains unaffected by such amendment

Claims 13-18, 20, 21, 24, 31-36, 38 and 39 depend from one of claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37. As explained, the rejections of claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37 are unsupported by Pal et al. and Hogan et al., whether taken alone or in combination. Therefore, the rejections of claims 13-18, 20, 21, 24, 31-36, 38 and 39 are also unsupported by Pal et al. for at least the same reasons as those given above with respect to claims 12, 19, 23, 30 and 37. In addition, neither Pal et al., nor Hogan et al., nor their combination teaches the additional recitations of these dependent claims.

With respect to claims 14, 21, 29 and 32, for example, the Examiner asserts that Pal et al. teaches "notifying a second client of the update, the second client being different than the first client," from which the request to be notified when the lookup service is updated was received. See *Office Action (June 28, 2005)*, p. 4, ll. 5-7 (citing Pal et al., col. 5, ll. 25-33). However, this is not the case. In the Pal et al. system, callback messages are sent only to those clients "that currently have [database] *object* X allocated." Pal et al., col. 6, ll. 61-67 (emphasis added). Thus, no clients in the

Pal et al. system send a request to be notified when the *database* (which the Examiner is interpreting as the lookup service) is updated, rather they simply allocate database *objects*.

Further, claims 16 and 34 each recite, *inter alia*, "receiving [a] request to be notified when a new service is associated with the lookup service, . . . [and] determining when a new service is associated with the lookup service." *Claim 16*, ll. 3-5; *Claim 34*, ll. 3-5. Similarly, claims 17 and 35 each recite, "receiving [a] request to be notified when one of the associated services is disassociated with the lookup service, . . . [and] determining when one service is disassociated with the lookup service." *Claim 17*, ll. 3-6; *Claim 35*, ll. 3-6. And claims 18 and 36 each recite, "receiving [a] request to be notified when attributes of at least one of the associated services is updated, . . . [and] determining when the attributes of at least one of the associated services is updated." *Claim 18*, ll. 3-6; *Claim 36*, ll. 3-6. However, the Examiner fails to even discuss such recitations in the rejection of these claims, and Applicants can find no discussion of such steps in either Pal et al. or Hogan et al.

For at least these additional reasons, the Examiner's rejections of claims 13-18, 20, 21, 24, 31-36, 38 and 39 lack support in Pal et al. or Hogan et al., whether these references are taken alone or combined. Therefore, the rejections of claims 13-18 are improper and Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

Conclusions

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

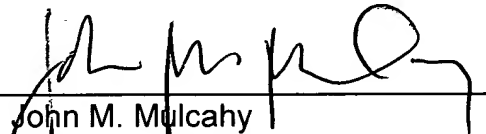
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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